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The Fort Erie Times

Saturday, January 12, 2013

Taking the plunge

Polar Bear Dip an annual local tradition

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Collard and Lubberts reflect

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Shular says '2012 was not our finest hour'

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Lockout's local impact

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Kristie Thomas, a bartender at Madison's Pub inside the Leisureplex, is one of many people in the local service industry who are expecting business to pick up once the National Hockey League returns to the ice on Jan. 19. Read the story on page 3.

Still waiting

Future of Racetrack relies on decision from province

Kris Dubé
Editor

It's still a waiting game between officials at the Fort Erie Racetrack and the provincial government.

Earlier this week, it was announced that the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) had struck a deal with Western Fair, a track in London, ON.

This has some people involved in the industry asking if the $10.5 million in funding to be allocated to the track in Southwestern Ontario will have any impact on the Fort Erie Racetrack.

Jim Thibert, chief executive officer of the Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium (FELRC) says there will be no impact because Western Fair is a standardbred track and the deal officials are hoping to iron out at the 116-year-old oval in Fort Erie, is unrelated.

See Page 5

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Brick to crowded pool

This is a brick to the a local swimming pool's staff for running what I call an 'everything goes' atmosphere during family swim times. It's far too crowded and I have many sfaety concerns.

Brick to statement about sledge hockey

This is a brick In response to an article in last week's paper about the Meteors coach being suspended. Upon reading, the coach made a comment saying "these refs should be reffing sledge hockey" when commenting on the way they made calls. To me as a sledge hockey player and for all players, it sounds like he's saying sledge hockey is not a sport that should be taking seriously and not a sport that deserves to have good refs as well. It sounds like he doesn't know what the sport is about and how hard we play to make it to an international level. Sledge hockey players deserve good reffing as well.

Bouquet to bulletin board postings

This is a bouquet to the local minor hockey association and all the great work they do. I enjoy watching travel games at the Leisureplex, but I have difficulty knowing when the games are. I don't have a computer and would like to suggest that a schedule be posted on the bulletin board inside the arena, the way it used to be. Other than that, keep up the good work.

Bouquet to helpful young man

I'd like to send a bouquet to the helpful young man who helped me get into a local grocery store, when there were extremely high winds outside. You were a great help.

Bouquet to Fire Department

Our sincere thanks and appreciation for their prompt response when our carbon monoxide detector started beeping. It turns out, it just needed to be replaced. Let this be a reminder, that carbon monoxide is a silent killer.

Bouquet to great neighbours

A big bouquet to the neighbours who cleared my grandparents' driveway on Windsor Avenue. Thank you so much.

Brick to outlandish events

A brick to the person who wrote last week that the high winds caused them to be hit in the head with a can of pop. I doubt that ever happened.

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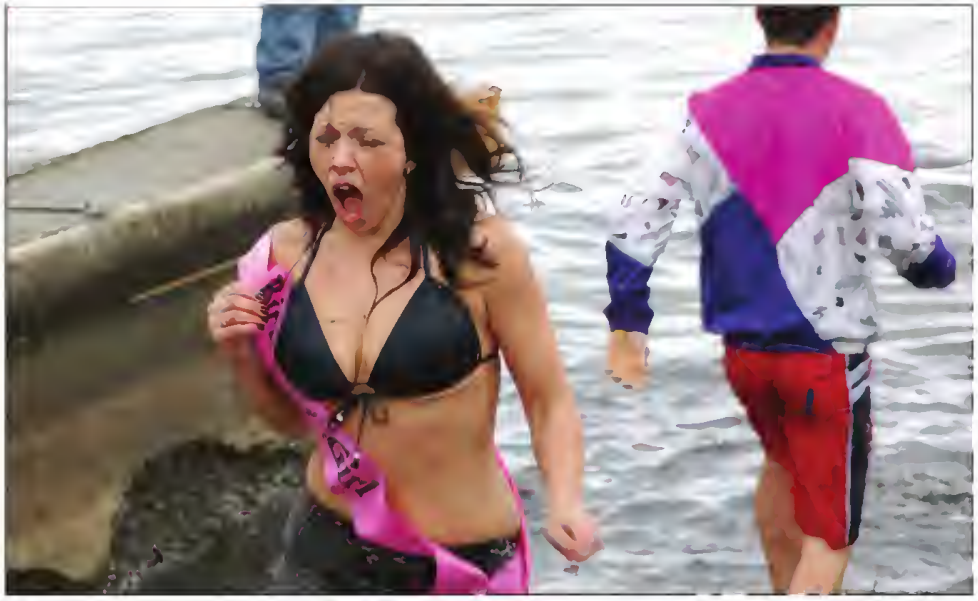
Taking the Polar Bear plunge

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Stephanie Heron was all smiles, waving to the camera before last Saturday's Polar Bear Dip at the Bertie Boat Club in Crystal Beach.



Vanessa Piasenti celebrated her 29th birthday last Saturday, by participating in the fourth annual Crystal Beach Polar Bear Dip and Chili Challenge. The event, hosted by the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Association, drew about 30 spectators and around 60 brave participants. For more photos and the full story, go to page 4.

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Local bars and fans getting ready for upcoming season

Pub owner says lockout has caused a 10 to 15 per cent decrease in business

Kris Dubé
Editor

Hockey is always in the air at Madison's Pub, but not nearly as much as it normally is.

The local pub, located inside the Leisureplex, has always been a place where the sport is considered a passion by its patrons.

Before and after games in recreational leagues, during intermission when the Fort Erie Meteors are at home on a Saturday night... these are the peak times for the local establishment.

But if there was no National Hockey League lockout that has deprived fans over the last few months, business would be a lot more steady, says owner Claire Tartaglia.

"Business is down due to nothing being on television, especially hockey," said Tartaglia.

One feature of the bar that she says draws many sports fans to catch a game, is the massive big screen TV that is perched on the wall.

She said that patrons can only watch the same loop of sports highlights so many times until they get bored and head home.

When there are scheduled NHL games, people tend to enjoy themselves a little more and stick around a bit longer too.

"People socialize a lot more when hockey is on," said.

She estimates that since it was announced that the NHL was on hold, business has been down by about 10 to 15 per cent.

> **"It's definitely put a damper on the whole atmosphere of the pub."**
>
> *— Claire Tartaglia*

"It's definitely put a damper on the whole atmosphere of the pub," she said.

During the lockout, she said most of the men who play in the recreational leagues seem to always just call it a night after their ice-time, instead of watching a period or two on the big screen.

"People aren't staying after their games, because there's no hockey to watch," she said.

Another draw to get hockey fans into the bar in a normal year, is through contests and promotions to win various NHL memorabilia like fridges, jerseys and even Buffalo Sabres tickets.

That has been an obvious impossibility for the last few months.

"We haven't even been able to do that type of stuff," said Tartaglia.

Guy Blair and John Park, owners of the Plaice Restaurant and Bar, also said less people are coming into their establishment since there hasn't been any NHL action for local fans to enjoy.

A combination of chicken wing specials and the showing of games, in the past would draw large crowds on Wednesdays and on weekends.

"We have noticed a decline in business for a number of reasons. However, the NHL lockout has been a significant one," said Blair.

Park said he hopes the NHL's return will get more people off the couch and back into their establishment, but it all depends on how forgiving fans are of the fact that this season will only be 48 games.

"If the fans decide to support the NHL by watching games at our bar, then we are expecting an increase in business," said Park.

Ridgeway resident Justin Burnett admitted the feud between the NHL and the National Hockey League Players Association has frustrated many loyal fans across the country, including himself.

He said the recent lockout has caused him to re-evaluate his position as a lifelong fan of the game.

"I can say that I'll turn my back on the league, but I know that won't be the case," said Burnett.

He's simply too big of a fan to ignore the shortened season, that will hit the ice on Jan. 19.

"In two weeks, I'll be cheering for my favourite team while watching TV at home or at a local establishment," said Burnett.

By not spending any money on NHL memorabilia or tickets to games over the next few years, he will consider it his own personal victory.

"Others will go to the games and buy the jerseys and the wheels will still turn. But for me, this is the only way I can appropriately manage and express my frustration," he said.

Earlier this week, the Fort Erie Times asked its online readers through its Facebook page for thoughts on the lockout.

Bob Marsh said he is not excited about a 48-game season, saying that whoever wins the Stanley Cup this year should consider it a "hollow victory."

Debbie Flemington said she is glad small businesses will likely see an increase in sales but feels fans should boycott the first few games, to send a strong message.

"I know it will not dawn our TV, that's for sure," she said.

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Polar Bear Dip becoming popular annual local tradition

Kris Dubé
Editor

Seeing dozens of brave souls take a plunge into the frigid waters of Lake Erie during the first week of the year, has become a local tradition.

On Saturday, at the Bertie Boat Club on Point Abino Road, the fourth annual Polar Beach Dip and Chili Challenge, hosted by the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Association (BIA) drew a large crowd.

About 60 individuals tested the elements by dipping into the Lake, with the water reading at 42 degrees fahrenheit.

Roughly 250 people attended the event, who chose to stand back and catch all the action in warm winter clothing.

Tracy Boese built up the courage to participate in such an event for the first time in her life.

She was skeptical and nervous when kicking around the idea, but her final decision was to add taking a polar bear dip to her list of life experiences.

"Just do it it what I said to myself, I just decided yesterday," sbe said.

Coun. Stephen Passero has made it an annual tradition for himself for the last four years.

He said it's difficult to assess if it gets easier each time around, but said it's a great event that he hopes will continue for many years.

"It always gets bigger and better, kudos to the Crystal Beach BIA for doing a fantastic job," said Passero.

"I just defrosted yesterday from last year."

Mike Larocque, past-president of the Fort Erie Water Recovery Unit and about five other members from the local diving club were on hand making sure everyone had a safe dip.

He said one of the golden rules is don't let participants to go further than where the unit's members are positioned in the water.

> **"It's turning into one of those events that people look forward to every year."**
>
> *— Phil Smith*

He also recommends than when there is ice in the water, that dippers should not submerge themselves underneath it and remain visible.

"It creates a more safe environment," said Larocque.

One of the event's organizers, Phil Smith, said the fourth run of the event went very well.

"It's turning into one of those events that people look forward to every year," said Smith, who co-ordinates the dip with fellow business owner Goran Maljkovic.

Smith said a record amount of food was also collected that will be donated to both Community Outreach Program Erie and the St. Vincent De Paul.

Winning the Chili Challenge component of the event were Jill and Trudy Winters, from Little Fat Fairies Catering.

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Local resident Mary Byrne gets ready to try a cup of chili made by Trudy Winters and her team at Little Fat Fairies Catering, who received the top prize at Saturday's chili challenge during the annual Crystal Beach Polar Bear Dip.

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The Tradition of Excellence continues...

'We've done everything we can possibly do,' says Thibert

From Page 1

Thibert said a business plan has been sent to the province, modeled after recommendations made by the Ontario Horse Racing Industry Association (OHRIA)'s transition panel.

Now, the FELRC has to sit back and wait to hear from the province about its plans for the Fort Erie Racetrack.

"We're just being very patient, waiting for our turn," said Thibert.

"We've done everything we possibly can do, we just have to wait for them now," he added.

In April, the OLG decided to shut down the slots at the Fort Erie Racetrack, a program that put about $33 million into municipal coffers during its 13-year tenure.

Last year, about 48 per cent of slot money was used for purses on race days at the track.

With slot money no longer coming in, if there is a season of live racing in 2013 at the Fort Erie Racetrack, one recommendation being made is that about 50 per cent of pari-mutuel wagering could cover the purse structure.

He said that would be too large of an amount for tracks in the province to work with.

"What do tracks do, if they aren't making money right now and a big chunk of change like that is taken from them?"

Thibert said there are many details that need to be worked out and over time, he hopes they will be.

"It's a very complex dynamic and it's going to take a bit of time," he said.

Thibert, who is also the general manager of the Fort Erie Economic Development and Tourism Corporation, hopes a direction will be handed down from the province as soon as possible. The track's lease expires on March 31, the same date that slot money will stop coming in.

When the OLG closed the slots facility last year, it was still agreed that the Town of Fort Erie and the FELRC would still be compensated until March 31.

"After that, we don't have a lease and we don't have any operating money," said Thibert.

"We certainly need to know before that."

According to Thibert, there has been a number of interested buyers of the property that has been assessed at somewhere around $16 million.

That interest has faded because of the price the track is listed for.

"Everybody has generally backed off," said Thibert, who could not go on the record with what the exact price is.

But that doesn't mean all hope is lost.

The track's owner, Nordic Gaming, has agreed to renew a lease with the FELRC if a deal is struck with the province.

"We do not need to sell this property to keep the track running," said Thibert.

Since there are so many details that need to be arrived at and there has been no indication of what the province will recommend, Thibert said it is impossible to come up with a dollar amount the track would require from the government in 2013.

"We have no clue what the terms are," he said.

Thibert said one of his biggest concerns is if the province will remain true to its idea that purse structures will come from pari-mutuel wagering.

> **"We could run a 30–day meet, but you'll never find people who invest in horses to come to it."**
>
> *— Jim Thibert*

"That's how we pay for things, there would need to be a way to make up the difference."

When the OHRIA's transition panel released its recommendations in late October of last year, when the Fort Erie Racetrack was mentioned, it was hinted that 30 race dates would be the best way to go at the historic oval. The FELRC expressed its concern at the time, saying that isn't nearly enough.

"We could run a 30-day meet, but you'll never find people who invest in horses to come to it."

The FELRC has followed its usual routine when it comes to race dates, applying for 78 for the season.

If the track does operate in 2013, Thibert said an ideal situation would be a total of 500 thoroughbred races for the entire season, along with 100 to 200 quarter horse races.

The last race of the 2012 season coming down the stretch at the Fort Erie Racetrack, back in October.

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by Alaina Hilliar, M.Cl.Sc
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opinion page

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our editorial

Forgive and forget?

With the NHL season set to start in about a week, fans seem to be back to where they were pre-lockout. Many have put aside their 'lockout rage' and are looking forward to seeing the teams get back on the ice.

For some though, the bitterness still lingers, and undoubtedly there will be people who stick with their sentiments on boycotting the NHL and any memorabilia.

The problem with boycotting is that it affects people on a local level, the workers/owners at the bars, the arena staff, and the many 'behind the scene' people that are involved in the average NHL season.

The owners and players are the ones in the spotlight, but due to the Canadian love of hockey it has had a ripple effect on local businesses and economy.

Lets face it, the NHL players and the owners aren't strapped for cash. Boycotting them won't devastate them. Even if every fan boycotted and the NHL folded these players and owners would still have enough money to retire somewhere most of us can't even afford to visit. Or, they could travel overseas and play for a different league, which some players decided to do over the lockout.

The days of players like the Rocket, who not only played hockey, but worked a full-time job labour intensive job are over. The NHL has become a business, and businesses are filled with negotiations, letdowns, setback and strikes.

In the end it comes down to blaming Gary Bettman, who bas taken the sport and marketed it into American cities that have no interest, forcing successful teams to carry the burden. Will the NHL improve post-Bettman era? One can only hope, but until then lets blame Bettman.

-Melissa Mangelsen

Do You Remember?

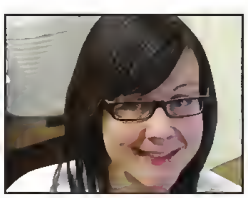
Last week's photo brought on a flurry of calls and e-mails amongst the people in the photo who then called the museum.

Our thanks to Ineke (van Doorn) Cirillo, Jim Simpson, and Pam (Thombs) Yasko for telling us about these sorority sisters who were being inducted into the Theta Kappa Sigma sorority. They are, left to right, Ineke van Doorn, Kathy Green, Cindy Prest, Pam White and Nancy Glenny. They all attended Fort Erie Secondary School at the time this photo was taken in 1966.

We also heard further about the previous week's photo of the hockey player. Jack Ashworth and Harry Bremner confirmed that this player was sporting an Intermediate A hockey sweater with the Fort Erie Maverick logo. This 1974 team, sponsored by Jim Blair, was named after the Ford Maverick. Thank you Jack and Harry.

We bet these two children in this week's photo are glad there will be a hockey season. If you know who they are and where this photo was taken, please call the Museum at 894-5322 or e-mail us - museum@forterie.on.ca.

Be cautious of floating flu virus and wash your hands



Melissa Mangelsen
Reporter's Notebook

The end of 2012 and the early stages of 2013 have been filled with chills, fevers, headaches, sore throats and fatigue.

Probably not the way many wanted to break into the New Year, but the area is facing an early flu season peak.

The debate of flu shot vs. no flu shot is always swirling around, and I'm guilty of not getting a flu shot. Luckily through hand washing, bottles of hand sanitizer, proper foods and exercise I've been able to dodge it (knock on wood). The Niagara Region has seen a decrease in the number of people getting vaccinations, last year staff gave 5,500 and this year only 4,200 people have gotten the inoculation.

The drop in number getting their flu shots may contribute to the spread of the virus, but over the holidays many people were hugging, shaking hands and kissing. People tend to spend more time with other people around the holiday season.

Flu germs can spread not only through contact with people who have it, but my touching contaminated surfaces like doorknobs, railings, utensils, etc.

I think it's safe to say that most people know the importance of proper hand washing, but yet, so many people ignore that.

I was in the mall over the weekend and was pretty surprised by the people who used the washroom and left without washing their hands.

This isn't a good idea any time of the year, but when the flu virus is floating around it's an even worse idea. Four people went into the washroom, and came out without hand washing. Literally a few minutes later I saw one of those women eating at the food court as well as touching her child's food and helping him eat.

Now just think, if there was four people in the matter of five minutes, there has got to be a lot of people out there wbo are ignoring this simple preventative step.

While the flu is typically just an annoyance for healthy people, the elderly, young and seriously sick could face a tougher challenge. The major flu shot clinics are over for the year, but people can still get their flu shots from their family doctor or call your local pbarmacy.

Common sense goes a long way, please wash your hands, it's not only a hazard but it's also gross.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 208 or you can send me an email to melissa.mangelsen@sunmedia.ca.

opinion page

Mayor Martin needs to show better leadership, says reader

Dear Editor,

It is with great disappointment that I feel the need to write this letter after reading Mayor Martin's press release to the local media on the hiring of a CAO.

Mayor Martin has since stated he did nothing wrong but nothing could be further from the truth. You talked about the procedure, you named a candidate and you discussed the scoring. All of these things are a definite breach of confidentiality. The Clerk of the town wouldn't allow a councillor to ask a question in open session on procedure as it might be a breach. How can you state you didn't breach. Worse yet how do you expect your fellow councillors to respect you as a leader and put their trust in you?

As the Mayor of our town and a self - proclaimed 20 year veteran of the political arena, you have shown very little leadership ability and very poor judgement.

I have watched you shut off the mics of councillors when you were angry, discredit fellow councillors when they disagreed and take your ball and quit when you didn't get your way. Mayor Martin this is not how a true leader conducts himself and if you want to get this council moving in the right direction it is time you lead by example and stop acting like a spoiled brat.

I have listened to you complain about a 4 to 3 vote but it seems that the only time it bothers you is when the vote is against what you want. A good example of this is the Bay Beach fiasco. In case you missed it, the vote was 4 to 3 in your favour and your comment was great full speed ahead. Nothing was said about how much you hated the vote and you have since said it was the most important thing to happen to Fort Erie in years.

I would like to state that as opposed to you and some others, I have great faith in our present council's ability to hire a CAO. Just for the record Councillor Hill was an upper executive in one of the largest car companies in the world and very capable of choosing a candidate. Councillor Collard was President and CAO of a company and very capable of choosing a candidate. Councillor Steckley is a business owner and a second term councillor and again very capable of choosing a candidate. Councillor Lubberts has displayed his ability and tenacity when faced with a task to do his homework and again is very capable of choosing a good candidate. So I think that instead of belittling these councillor's and trying to bully them, you should accept their decision which by the way is the democratic process in which the majority rules.

In closing I would like to state that after being in business for over 30 years I have developed the ability to separate my feelings from business and friendships. As an individual I've conducted business with you and considered you a friend. As a mayor I am very disappointed in your leadership ability and your bullying tactics and I personally expected much more from you after more than 20 years in the political arena. I believe you are capable of turning this around but you must start acting like a leader and lead by example.

Ken Riel
Fort Erie

Better governance needed to address important issues

Dear Editor,

As an outspoken business owner in town, I've had ample opportunity to talk to people about the representation on council in the last two years. 98 per cent of the people asking me about current situations are concerned about the damage that has been done to the town by current council. The other two per cent come in to explain to me that their four councilors are doing what is right. Most of that two per cent have a bunch of false information that they can not back up with facts. I have a copy of the operational review, a freedom of information request and numerous other documents which I will show them to back up any of the statement that I have made.

I listen carefully to what these few supporters have to say and ask for the proof. They can not back it up past a "he or she said..."

Many are surprised to see facts that contradict what they have been told. Few people in this town believe that the four councilors are acting in the best interest of the town. Few people believe that we should not know why the lawyer was fired and how much that cost us. Few people believe that we should not know why they are determined not to offer Ron Tripp the job as CAO. Few people believe that the approved "Bay Beach" project should have consumed the time and money that was wasted by the four trying to stop the project and put the town at risk of a law suit. Few people believe that after spending $93,000 on an operational review that little has been done by council to address the issue of better governance or hiring health and safety personnel to take away the risk of an audit by Workman's Comp. We need better governance to address these issues.

Mayor Martin has tried his best to lead this council in a positive way. He has tried his best to warn these councilors about acting in the best interest of the town and educate them on conflict of interest.

Unfortunately, as I have learned when the Municipal Act is violated a private citizen has to file in court (at their cost) to enforce the Act. This is backed up by the recent case of Rob Ford. Our ombudsman's office at this time has not been given the power to enforce the Municipal Act and the Integrity Office is not designed to investigate unless asked by a member of parliament.

That said, there is still a lot more that can be done. More and more people are speaking out. More and more are needed. You can call or e-mail your councilor and the mayor and voice your concerns. Regardless of people saying this town is split and your on one side or the other, I believe that we are all on the side of what we believe is best for Fort Erie. This current council is so dysfunctional that there needs to be big changes in attitude.

They need to start listening to the true experts not the armchair ones that are trying to get back for something that happened on a previous council.

We need to move on.

We need everyone to let them know we are not happy with the performance of the last two years.

Lesley North
Fort Erie

'We are all in trouble,' says resident

Dear Editor,

Thank you letter writers from the past several weeks, I was starting to believe that I was the only taxpayer in Fort Erie questioning the sanity or insanity of our present town council. You have all provided disturbing examples of an extremely dysfunctional council, some members resorting to any means possible to disrupt and/or stall our town's business, questioning every staff report or recommendation adnauseam. Then by means of block voting, they demonstrate their ultimate power through staff termination.

This town is in trouble. We are all in trouble. At the very least, be prepared to suffer substantial property tax increases over the next few years to not only cover working expenses but to rebuild a seriously depleted capital reserve, a fund that some members don't understand or believe is unnecessary.

Is our present council competent enough to work together to find solutions to our problems. According to published interviews some members recognize their shortcomings and suggest change is required. Only time will tell if they have matured enough to work together for the common good of our town. Happy New Year to all of us.

D.J. Hayward Till
Fort Erie

Start playing for the crest on the front of your jersey

Dear Editor,

I am writing in regards to my overall opinion of our Town Council and the concerns I have with the way they seem to be treating an individual that has taken on the responsibilities of our CAO for the betterment of our Town. I beleive that Mr. Tripp has been doing a great job filling in for the duties of the CAO of Fort Erie, as I have not heard a single complaint since he has taken on the Job, so what is the issue that Mr.Tripp can not take it on permenantly and have the position filled, so we are not wasting anymore money! There are a few individuals on council that need to realize that our Town would be in a lot worse shape, if Mr. Tripp had decided to pass on the position and duties. Give him the opportunity and let him prove you wrong, instead of the other way around. Start playing for the crest on the front of your jersey and not the name on your back.

George Ahern
Fort Erie

Collard says 'no part is greater than the sum' on council

Kris Dubé
Editor

Accomplishments and decisions of council are a collective effort, says Ward 6 Coun. Paul Collard.

"Being a councillor is really part of a collaborative team and no part is greater than the sum," said Collard, who represents the Stevensville area.

A measure he says he has taken since being elected in October 2010, is being diligent with understanding the many important issues that come before council.

"I do my best to study, research, ask questions, consult with staff and read my council package in its entirety so I can make an informed, responsible decision."

In 2012, Collard said one of the proudest moments for him was being in attendance at the national Communities in Bloom symposium in Edmonton.

'To hear Fort Erie's name being called out as a national winner brought tears to my eyes when I saw the committee on stage," said Collard.

He also noted last year's budget deliberations as a highlight for him, although it came with some difficulties.

"The budget was viewed by most, including staff, as a fair and comprehensive budget," said Collard.

Looking ahead to 2013, Collard said the Canadian Motor Speedway is a project that he hopes will become a reality.

"This is a project the vast majority of citizens are desperately waiting for."

A completed neighbourhood plan for the Stevensville area is also something Collard hopes will unfold.

"This is an opportunity to engage people in this northern ward into helping define what their community will be and look like in the near future and for many years to come," he said.

According to Collard, there are about 20 acres of prime, serviced, industrial land available in Stevensville. He says the Fort Erie Economic Development and Tourism Corporation (EDTC) could find a buyer for the property.

"All municipalities are faced with eroding or industrial bases but our EDTC must aggressively pursue and maximize existing industrial properties before attacking those saddled with provincially significant wetland designations," said Collard.

Lubberts says differences were overcome in 2012

Kris Dubé
Editor

Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts says accomplishments made by council in 2012 shouldn't be attributed to one individual.

"What is accomplished happens collectively by the majority," said Lubberts, who was elected to his first term as the councillor for Crystal Beach in October 2010.

But that doesn't mean he feels there aren't things he and the rest of council can be proud of.

Speaking directly to his own ward, Lubberts said the Point Abino Lighthouse Restoration project is something he feels will go down in history as being a great stride made by the local government of the time.

"I felt very proud to be a member of the council that had the fortitude to restore a part of our heritage," said Lubberts.

He also said a plaque dedication to the crew members of Light Vessel 82 has been a great addition to the area.

"It was very moving to see members of our Canadian Legion and the U.S. Coast Guard and others join together to honour their fallen soldiers," said Lubberts.

The councillor said he is glad to have worked so closely with Town staff over the last year, claiming that any time he needed to speak with someone at Town Hall about an issue one of his constituents was having, they were helpful and expedient.

"That's not to say there weren't any arguments, because there were. But the differences were overcome and we all managed to resolve most of the issues," said Lubberts.

When asked what he feels will be the biggest issue of 2013, Lubberts said it is far too early to make that determination.

See Page 9

Councillors Don Lubberts, left, and Paul Collard at the Santa Claus Parade in November 2012.

Enjoy a leisurely lunch or dinner in a quiet atmosphere with a panoramic view

Bridgewater

NEW WINTER HOURS COMMENCE January 2nd
Open Tuesday & Wednesday 11:00AM till 2:30PM
Thursday, Friday & Saturday 11:00AM till 9:00PM
Sunday from 10:00AM till 2:30PM

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Shular says '2012 was not our finest hour'

Kris Dubé
Editor

Although there were some strides made by council in 2012, Rick Shular says things could have been better.

"In my opinion, 2012 was not our finest hour," said Shular, Ward 2 Coun.

In his third term as a local politician, Shular said there was too much separation between members of council in the past year.

"We did come together on some things, but we were quite a ways apart on the majority," he said.

"I'd say we had more 'lowlights' than we did highlights," he added, referring to the loss of the slots, the closure of key businesses, legal actions involving certain projects and the death of prominent community figures.

He also feels that council should have a better relationship with Town staff, saying that morale at Town Hall could be a lot higher.

Ward 2 Coun. Rick Shular

"In my opinion, it was at an all-time low."

Discussing what he feels were major local accomplishments in 2012, he is proud of both fire companies who will be coming together under one roof in a new facility on Central Avenue.

"They could have balked at sharing a new facility," said Shular, who called the new station a benchmark for fire protection.

He is also proud of last year's budget process, saying that a responsible financial plan for the Town of Fort Erie was put together by staff and approved by council.

Shular is also pleased with a new parking area on Bertie Street across from the Douglas Memorial site, something he has been advocating for over his last two terms.

"That's something I felt was needed for quite a while," said Shular.

In 2013, Shular agreed there will be challenges that council will be faced with.

The first priority should be spending taxpayers' money effectively.

"We need to spend those dollars wisely and address our long-term strategy," he said.

The councillor says the current roster on council needs to replenish reserve funds and get the municipality back on track for future terms.

"We can't leave a legacy of debt," he said.

Making progress on a new hospital for South Niagara is something he hopes will be dealt with locally and provincially as effectively and as soon as possible.

The Canadian Motor Speedway is also something Shular hopes will become a reality.

"That needs to come to fruition," he said.

Shular also expects that in 2013, more local residents will speak out about local issues or simply raise questions of the local government.

He says that it appears more people, ones that aren't normally involved in the local political arena, seem to speaking out with their opinions.

"We're seeing more of that now."

No member of council 'smarter than the others'

From Page 8

"If I knew that now, I would be working on a solution to resolve it before it happened," he said.

But if he did have to narrow it down to one topic, he said addressing the local economic climate and jobs should be at the forefront.

"Although we do have some very promising proposals in the works, we cannot get too comfortable," said Lubberts.

"Anything can happen, so we have to continue to look for new opportunities," he added.

Lubberts also said hiring a full-time chief administrative officer is highly important.

"I know that this issue has become contentious lately but in the end I am confident that this council will prevail and the public will be grateful we were diligent in our search," he said.

Lubberts also provided his thoughts on what he feels could be done differently in 2013, compared to the previous year.

He said that certain members of council, and even the local press have made it sound like local politicians don't "know what they're talking about" when they are disagreed with.

"I don't think there is any one member of this council that is smarter than the others."

Lubberts said differences of opinion need to be set aside and instead there should be more of a focus on improving efficiencies and the quality of life in Greater Fort Erie.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Niagara Region Economic Development division is recruiting interested business owners and professionals to serve on the newly created **Economic Development Advisory Panel**. The panel will provide local perspective, guidance and expert strategic advice in the operation of the new economic development function. Panel advisors should have previous advisory experience and bring a region-wide vision to create a balanced focus on improving Niagara's economy.

The advisory panel will consist of the following:
- Three seats for Niagara business owners
- Two seats for Regional council representatives
- One seat for each of the following:
  - Chamber of commerce representative
  - Finance sector representative
  - Post-secondary sector representative
  - Senior Regional staff representative
  - Industry association representative
  - Real estate representative
  - Incubation representative
  - Trade union representative
  - Local area municipal representative - CAO
  - Local area municipal representative - economic development officer

The panel is soliciting interest from people with skill sets in the following areas:
- Commercial/industrial development
- Entrepreneurship or business start-up
- Manufacturing
- Media/public relations
- Government relations and advocacy
- Investment and venture capital
- Transportation and logistics
- Branding and web development
- Mediation
- Performance measurement
- International business affairs
- Private/public partnerships
- Transition and change management
- Labour force development
- Competitive marketing and sales experience

Meetings will be held quarterly for approximately two hours. Appointment term will be two years.

The expression of interest application form, self-assessment tool and the terms of reference providing details on seat structure are available on our website at **www.niagararegion.ca**. Applications may be completed online, downloaded and mailed or dropped off in person.

To apply directly, forward the completed application, self-assessment and CV to:
Office of the Regional Clerk
Niagara Region
2201 St. David's Rd. W.
PO Box 1042
Thorold, ON, L2V 4T7

Applications may also be emailed to:
janet.pilon@niagararegion.ca

Applications must be received no later than Jan. 18, 2013. All expressions of interest will be considered. An interview process may be conducted.

For more information, contact
Susan Cudahy, Manager, Major Projects
905-685-4225 ext. 3798 or
susan.cudahy@niagararegion.ca

Niagara Region

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FORT ERIE ONTARIO

Our Focus: Your Future

TOWN OF FORT ERIE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT
FIRE STATION NO. 1: 119 BERTIE STREET
OWNER/APPLICANT: TOWN OF FORT ERIE
Application: 350309-356

DATE: FEBRUARY 4TH, 2013
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LOCATION OF SUBJECT LANDS

PROPOSED CHANGE

The Town of Fort Erie has initiated a combined Official Plan and Zoning by-law Amendment for Fire Station No. 1 located at 119 Bertie Street. The Central Avenue Fire Station is scheduled to begin operations in May 2013. Operations at Fire Station No.1 on Bertie Street will transition to the Central Avenue Fire Station once it opens. With the transition of the operations of Fire Station 1 to the Central Avenue Facility, the lands located at 119 Bertie Street will be surplus to the Town's needs and could be sold in accordance with Council's Sale of Land Policy.

The Town has initiated an Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment to redesignate and rezone the Fire Station for its best use as a residential property. The proposed Official Plan Amendment will change the designation of the Fire Station from Institutional to Residential. The proposed Zoning by-law amendment will change the zoning of the Fire Station from Institutional to a site specific Residential Multiple 1 RM1 Zone which would permit a variety of residential uses including single detached, semi-detached and town-house dwellings, duplexes, triplexes and the conversion of the existing building into an apartment house. The proposed changes in the Official Plan and zoning will help improve the marketability of the site by providing prospective purchasers with increased flexibility for the site's development.

MORE INFORMATION

For further information please contact Matt Kernahan, Senior Development Planner at (905) 871-1600 extension 2507. A copy of the Information Report will be available to the public on **February 1st, 2013**. The information report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Town's Web Site: www.town.forterie.on.ca or from the Community and Development Services Department.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the Public Meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above now, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter c/o the Town Clerk Carolyn Kett, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6

PLANNING ACT LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie has not yet made a decision regarding this application.

After considering any written comments and the comments from the public meeting, a Recommendation Report will be prepared for a future Council-in-Committee meeting.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you do not attend the public meeting but wish to be notified of the adoption of the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment, you are required to make a written request to the Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 12th day of January, 2013

Carolyn Kett,
Town Clerk

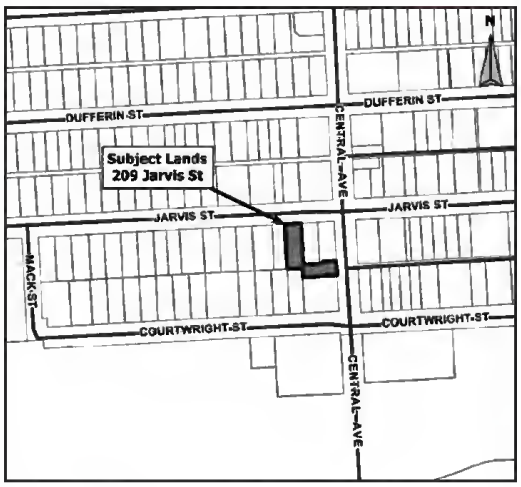
Richard F. Brady, MA, MCIP, RPP,
Director of Community and Development Services

TOWN OF FORT ERIE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT
FIRE STATION NO. 2: 209 JARVIS STREET
OWNER/APPLICANT: TOWN OF FORT ERIE
Application: 350309-357

DATE: FEBRUARY 4TH, 2013
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LOCATION OF SUBJECT LANDS



PROPOSED CHANGE

The Town of Fort Erie has initiated a combined Official Plan and Zoning by-law Amendment for Fire Station No. 2 located at 209 Jarvis Street. The Central Avenue Fire Station is scheduled to begin operations in May 2013. Operations at Fire Station No. 2 on Jarvis Street will transition to the Central Avenue Fire Station once it opens. With the transition of the operations of Fire Station 2 to the Central Avenue Facility, the lands located at 209 Jarvis Street will be surplus to the Town's needs and could be sold in accordance with Council's Sale of Land Policy.

The Town has initiated an Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment to redesignate and rezone the Fire Station for its best use as a commercial property. The proposed Official Plan Amendment will change the designation of the Fire Station from Institutional to Commercial. The proposed Zoning by-law amendment will change the zoning of the Fire Station from Institutional to Central Business District Commercial C2A Zone which would permit a variety of commercial uses. The proposed changes in the Official Plan and zoning will help improve the marketability of the site by providing prospective purchasers with increased flexibility for the site's development.

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Dated this 12th day of January, 2013

Carolyn Kett,
Town Clerk

Richard F. Brady, MA, MCIP, RPP,
Director of Community and Development Services

Local company will save over $20,000 in development fees

Melissa Mangelsen
Fort Erie Times

Good news came to Peninsula Plastics' President Craig Bolton at a regional council meeting last week, as he learned that he would be able to go ahead with an expansion to the local company, using reduced rates.

After the Town approved to change their development charge rates from $9.63 per square foot back down to the 2010 level of $2.26, Bolton began looking into expanding operations at Peninsula Plastics.

Before he could secure all the necessary permits needed to build, the Niagara Region more than doubled its rate to $5.16 per square foot.

His application was held up because he was working with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, as well as dealing with government departments on issues like tree surveys, draining and floor height, fire walls and sprinkler systems.

Because the Region changed its fee before his application went through, Bolton was looking at an additional $21,000 in development fees.

Fortunately for Bolton, some town officials stepped in and began lobbying the Region to allow him to go ahead with the original price.

Bolton's setback caught the attention of the Town's interim chief administrative officer Ron Tripp, who also lobbied for the Region to use its old rates because it was always the Town's intent for him to go ahead with this project using the lower rate.

Bolton sent a letter to the regional government explaining that it was "fundamentally wrong," to raise the development charges in the middle of his expansion.

The rates at the regional level changed Sept. 1, which was a Saturday, and Bolton was unable to file his paperwork until Sept. 5, because of the Labour Day long weekend.

Because Bolton had assumed that everything was ready to go, construction of the expansion was already underway when he found out of the rate changes.

"We would have had to go ahead with the expansion, but the money would have had to come out of my pocket," said Bolton.

Fort Erie mayor Doug Martin, at last week's regional council meeting spoke about honouring the old rate, since it wasn't his fault the application was late.

"He was in transition and should have been charged the old rate. I went to regional council on Tuesday to ask them to consider that he be charged the old rate," said Martin.

With the tough economic times Fort Erie has faced, the creation of jobs and sustainability of local businesses is vital to ensure the town moves forward.

The expansion is expected to add an addition 16 jobs to Peninsula Plastics, but Bolton said because they have been so busy they have already begun to hire more employees. The jobs available through Peninsula Plastics are full-time and full benefit positions, which is important to the town.

Martin said they decided to lower the rate until the end of their term to try and encourage economic growth in Fort Erie.

"We had the challenge on how to achieve economic growth, so we went back to the old rate to try and attract businesses that want to invest in the town," he said.

Before going through the struggles in dealing with the rate changes, Bolton said he fought for his building to be considered an addition, rather than a new building. Because the buildings could have been attached by just a hallway, a redesign had to be done to ensure that it fit into the town bylaw under the definition of an expansion.

"It was a lot of back and forth, architecturally it's a little strange, but it's what was needed to be considered an addition," he said.

The expansion will be used for a warehouse until it is needed for further future growth.

"We're very pleased with the regional council, I thought it was only fair that he be charged the old rate, and they thought so too," said Martin.

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at Crystal Ridge community centre
99 Ridge Road South, Ridgeway
Special thanks to all the generous residents who supported us in our successful 2012 xmas tree sales. The Riverside Lions (Buffalo) and Ridgeway Lions are proud supporters of the Diabetes Society, Camp Dorsit (kidney dialysis) Scout and Youth, Community Living and CNIB (Guide Dogs).
Happy New Year To All
Spaghetti or Penne Served Continuously from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Adults: $8.00 Children $4.00 (ages 4-10)

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Idle No More hits Peace Bridge

John Law
QMI Agency Niagara

JOHN LAW QMI Agency Niagara
Protestors on the Peace Bridge last Saturday, for an Idle No More demonstration.

The sign said it was a "no idling zone."

About 200 people on the Peace Bridge couldn't agree more.

Marching on a single lane closed just for them by the Buffalo & Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority, Niagara's Idle No More masses braved bone-chilling January wind to get their message across Saturday.

They used songs. They used bullhorns. Most of all, they used peace. There were no delays and traffic flowed freely while the group met their American "brothers and sisters" at the middle of the bridge.

"It's appropriate it's on the Peace Bridge," said Celeste Smith of Niagara Falls, shivering but smiling as the event wound down. "It's so cold. My family's home with the flu right now!"

Calling the turnout "touching," Smith said events like Saturday's in Fort Erie will be talked about for generations as a turning point for aboriginal concerns in Canada.

Idle No More, a grassroots movement started in October, is now a national campaign drawing attention to the federal government's environmental policies. In particular Bill C-45, which overhauled regulations protecting major bodies of water in Canada, including several which pass through First Nations land.

Protests were also held Saturday on bridges in Sarnia and Cornwall. In both cases, police closed the bridges.

In Fort Erie, PBA officers steered protesters onto one laneway, then helped guide traffic for about an hour as they congregated at the midway point. There were no incidents or arrests, with several cars and trucks honking their support.

"Everyone acted great and it was just a good, peaceful demonstration," said PBA traffic officer Gord Adie. "They respected the PBA and the PBA respected them back."

Protesters gathered near Mather Arch at about 11:30, some with kids, some with dogs, most with signs. After some speeches and prayers, the group - led by children - made their way towards the bridge at about 1 p.m.

Wind so stiff it straightened flags awaited them, but no one turned back. The message is too important, said Harry Gunnat of Irving, N.Y.

"The whole purpose is to raise awareness, and we're not the only ones," he said. "This is across the country, from Niagara Falls to Vancouver, across the whole territories. And it's growing internationally."

"It's about the aboriginal people. Long overdue."

While no tempers flared Saturday, Gunnat doesn't mind raising some ire if necessary.

"I seen a Facebook post last night that said 'Sorry we're inconveniencing you, we're trying to change the world.'"

Church Directory
Riverside Community Church
www.riversidecommunityc.com
905-871-8880
2669 Niagara Parkway
Sunday: 9:30am & 11:00am
(kids' ministry from nursery to gr5 in each service)
This Week's Theme: "BUT GOD"
Pastor Jay Stewart speaking
trinitylife church
Lead Pastor Dale Shaw
Associate Pastor Rob Collier
Associate Pastor Howard Hoover
Sunday Service at 10:30am
Nursery & Toddler Care Provided
Kids Time Starting at 10:15 am
5348 Sherkston Road, Sherkson
www.trinitylifechurch.ca
BERTIE CHURCH
5244 Highway #3, Sherkston, ON
(at Sherkston United Church Facility)
905-894-0717
Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Speaker: Rev. Leonard Chester

New bench boss in town

Cory Smith
QMI Agency Niagara

In an effort to find stability, the Fort Erie Meteors have turned to a head coach whose resume is nomadic.

The Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League club hired Chris Johnstone last week, less than a week after Clint Strachan and Scott Lisko resigned.

"It motivated me to get in there again and see if we can get some good things done before the end of the year," Johnstone said. "I'm hoping things go well with me and both Tonys (Passero and Visca) and I appreciate the opportunity they gave me."

The loss of Strachan and Lisko, coupled with Passero's nine-game suspension — the OHA could make a final decision on additional punishment as early as Thursday — left a void behind the Meteors bench. Fort Erie called Johnstone, who has stood behind nearly every bench in the Golden Horseshoe Conference.

The 52-year-old from Niagara Falls has now coached every team in the league except for Port Colborne and Stoney Creek.

"Every experience is new," Johnstone said. "With a new club, new environment, it gets the juices flowing. The shelf life with coaches is usually three or four years, and I've been able to have success with people I'm with ... this is another one."

Johnstone's coaching career started in 1985 with the St. Catharines Falcons. Between his stops in the Golden Horseshoe, he also spent time with Niagara Falls, Erie and Sault Ste. Marie in the Ontario Hockey League as either coach or general manager.

Johnstone started the season in Thorold before a dispute led to his departure. His son, Carson, also left the Blackhawks and joined the Meteors in October.

The 19-year-old has five goals and 11 assists in 24 games.

Chris Johnstone watched the team as a fan for almost three months and believes it would benefit from playing a simpler game and better utilizing its speed.

"I think it's a very energetic team, hard workers and talent here," he said. "Some good young players and work ethic is everything for this team.

"I think that can be an asset for them."

The Meteors travelled to Buffalo Tuesday on a four-game losing streak. Fort Erie (14-22-0) was three points ahead of Stoney Creek for sixth in the conference.

The team could make more moves in advance of Thursday's deadline, but it will be up to Visca and Passero.

"We're happy with the club and not unhappy," Johnstone said. "If there was a bigtime player you'd be foolish not to look at it."

Chris Johnstone, who started the year with Thorold, has joined the Fort Erie Meteors as their new head coach.

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Meteor Cameron Fairgrieve in the defensive zone, during last Saturday's 4-1 loss to the Niagara Falls Canucks. The Meteors shut out the Buffalo Blades on Tuesday 5-0 and were beat by Stoney Creek 4-2 on Thursday. Tonight, the local Jr. B team will welcome the Thorold Blackhawks for a 7:15 p.m. puck drop at the Leisureplex.

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The Fort Erie Times

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Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All claims against the estate of **JOSEPH ROGER COUTURE,** late of the TOWN of FORT ERIE in the REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY of NIAGARA, who died on or about the 14th day of December, 2012, must be filed with the undersigned Estate Trustee on or before the 15TH day of January, 2013; thereafter, the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said estate having regard only to the claims then filed.

DATED at Fort Erie this 3rd day of January, 2013.

MARIE ALDA COUTURE,
Estate Trustee, by her Solicitor,
HAGAN LAW FIRM
29 Jarvis Street, PO. Box 68,
FORT ERIE, ON,
L2A 5M6. 905-871-4440

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All claims against the estate of **FREDERICK JAMES KENWORTHY,** late of the TOWN of FORT ERIE in the REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY of NIAGARA, who died on or about the 17th day of December, 2012, must be filed with the undersigned Estate Trustee on or before the 18th day of January, 2013; thereafter, the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said estate having regard only to the claims then filed.

DATED at Fort Erie this 3rd day of January, 2013.

IAN MURRAY KENWORTHY,
Estate Trustee, by his Solicitor,
HAGAN LAW FIRM
29 Jarvis Street, PO. Box 68,
FORT ERIE, ON
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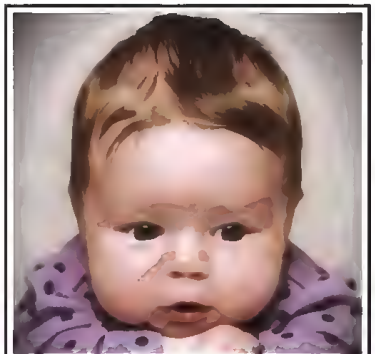
Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks
Births | Celebrations | More

Births

JAMES
Kyle and Amy (Walpole) of Ottawa are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, **Charlotte Reese (Charlie)** on December 9, 2012 at Ottawa Civic Hospital, weighing 8 lbs./5 oz. and 22" long. Proud grandparents are Richard and Carole Walpole of Fort Erie and Gary and Bev James of Ottawa. Great-grandparents are Dianne Walpole and June Sauer, both of Fort Erie. Proud aunts Lauren (Nick) and Emily and proud uncle Brenden. A cousin for William. Special thanks to Dr. Tawagi and the OBS Staff at the Ottawa Civic Hospital.



Judith Jacques would like to announce the arrival of her granddaughter
Rozaleigh Elizabeth Jacques
born on November 10, 2012
in Kitchener, Ontario.
Proud first time parents are Todd and Stacey Jacques of Kitchener.

Coming Events

GROUP DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES
Starting Jan. 23rd.
Limited enrollment.
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Marking your milestones.
Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Cards of Thanks

SCIORTINO, John - The family of the late John Sciortino thank the many health care providers, friends and family for the love and support during John's illness and his passing. Your support, donations, gifts of food and flowers were appreciated more than we can adequately express. Thanks to the pallbearers, Father Jeff, St. Michael's Church, Darren and staff at Benner Funeral Services.
Josephine, Jennie, Joe, Daniela and Salvatore

Obituaries

ANNETT, Mary – Passed away peacefully at Gilmore Lodge, Fort Erie, on Friday January 4, 2013, in her 91st year. Predeceased by her beloved husband James(2000). Dear mother of Mel (Kathryn) Annett, Ron (June) Annett and Alan (Patricia) Annett all of Fort Erie. Sadly missed by her grandchildren Sean, Kyle, Kiera (Johnny) Oulton and their mother Kathryn Drury, Cory (Tina) Annett, Meaghan (Devin) Doram, Brendan (Sylvia) Annett, Jennifer (Don) Vitali, her great grandchildren and her last surviving sister Bernadette Quinn. She is also survived by her extended family and many friends. At Mary's request cremation has taken place and a celebration of life and interment have been held. Expressions of sympathy may be made to The Ontario Heart & Stroke Foundation, Fort Erie SPCA or to a charity of your choice. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES** 905-894-0120.

FRETZ, Margaret Ellen - After a long courageous battle on Wednesday, January 9th, Margaret Fretz has gone to be with The Lord. She will be greatly missed and remembered by son Kirk (Theresa), granddaughters Brittany and Lauren Fretz, great-granddaughter Cambria Fretz and as well as her brother David Barnes. She has been reunited with her loving parents William and Hazel Barnes. Cremation has taken place and a private family service is to follow at a later date. Many thanks for the spiritual support and assistance to the Staff of Port Colborne Hospital, Aunt Mary, our many friends and family. Funeral arrangements entrusted to **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, Ridgeway. If so desired donations to a charity of your choice. On line guest register
www.williamsfuneralhome.ca

Obituaries

HOWE, Robert Dalton - RCAF - Passed away on Sunday January 6th, 2013 surrounded by family. Loving husband of Lois and father of R. Douglas (Carrol) and William (Carrie). Cherished grandfather of Sara (David Carter) and Michael and Sara Howe. Also survived by two loving sisters Aileen (Donald Cooke) and Margret (Marv Stiver), many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by brothers Alex and Malcom Howe. He cherished his time at his home in Black Creek surrounded by friends and neighbours. This kind, gentle soul was well-loved by all and left his fingerprints on the many lives he touched. Memorial Services will be held at a future date. The family would like to sincerely thank all the staff at Douglas Memorial Hospital for being so incredibly kind, caring and compassionate through this difficult time. As well, a heartfelt thank you to Dr. Kim Scher, a truly amazing man and doctor. Condolence messages may be left at
www.bennerfuneralservices.com

MITCHELL, Beverley (nee Hood) Loving memories of a dear wife, mother and grandmother who passed away January 8, 2013.

Always a lonely heartache,
Often a silent tear,
But always a beautiful memory,
Of one we love so dear.

Beverley will be greatly missed by husband John, daughter Stacey, son-in-law David, and grandchildren Tabitha and Shaine. At Bev's request cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation would be greatly appreciated.

In Memoriams

Beverly Haines R.N.
January 13, 2009

Forever remembered. Forever missed.
Forever in my heart.
Susan

In loving memory of a dear father,
Harry J. Barnhart
who passed away January 6, 1984.
His memory is as clear today.
As in the hour he passed away.
Always remembered by your son.

Lance LeRoy Jones
December 31, 1974 - January 12, 2005
In loving memory of our son, brother, father and uncle.
Our hearts still ache in sadness,
Our silent tears still flow,
For what it meant to lose you, Lance,
No one will ever know.
Love, Mom & Dad, Mike & Selene,
Jen & Dan, Skylar, Marshall, Nathaniel.

In Memoriams

On what would have been your
75th Birthday
MARIA COTTONE
January 14, 1938 - April 7, 2011
Ma, God saw you getting tired
and it was clear and shocking to us
that a cure was not to be,
So God put His arms around you and
whispered, "Maria come with me."
A beautiful golden heart stopped beating,
A precious gift taken away from us,
No goodbyes, no last words . . .
Your gentle loving hard working
hands at rest.
God broke our hearts and they cannot be
mended, the agony of your loss grows
more intense and real each day.
Ma, you hid your illness and pain and you
fought so hard to stay and not leave us.
Your concern as always for us
and not yourself.
But when I saw you sleeping in peace
and free from the excruciating pain from
this horrible illness, I did not wish you
back to suffer that again.
Nothing on earth can separate you from
us, not time, space . . . not even death.
Please God - keep your arms around her
and give her special care until we are all
reunited in our eternal home.
Love always, Vincent and Soso

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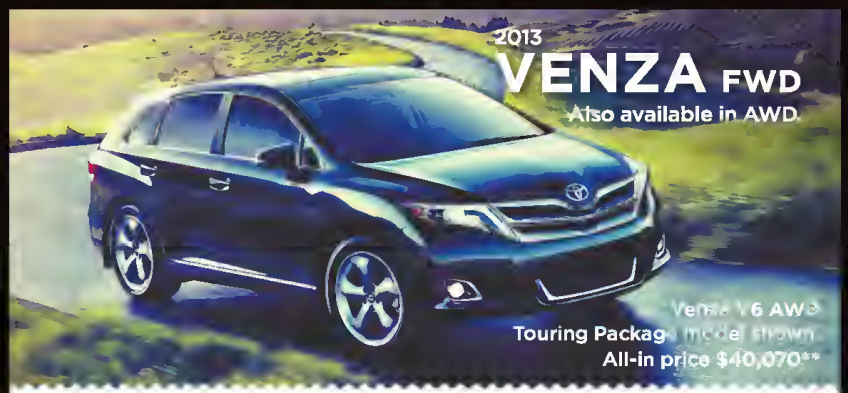

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